

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, June 25, 2013

6 PM Ella Risk Lower Level Meeting Room

I. Call to Order and Roll Call - The meeting opened at 6:10 PM. Present were Sonia Grace, Ana Cecilia Rosado, and Anna Cano Morales. Stephanie Gonzalez , Carlos Tobon arrived late at 6:50 PM. Hugo Figueroa and Diosa Martinez were absent.

II. Pledge

III. Recognitions: Housing Authority sponsored Poster Contest winners; Art teacher Lori Mardo- Zayat for her constant support and assistance – Chairperson Cano Morales presented Ms. Mardo-Zayat with a certificate commending her for consistent openness to projects and student supports. Ms. Keiser noted for the record the great work of the fledgling partnership between the Housing Authority and the School District.

IV. Approval of the meeting minutes of June 11, 2013 – A motion to approve the minutes of June 11, 2013 was made by Ms. Grace, seconded by Ms. Gonzalez. Dr. Gallo noted a correction in the language of the motion made to rescind the letters of rescission so as to be grammatically correct. The correction was so noted. The vote taken. Motion carried. (4,0)

V. Approval of personnel actions including any new appointments, rescissions, resignations, and retirements – Chairperson Cano

Morales read the following names: Jennifer Banos, Ashley Paris, Missy Prendergast, Jamie Quinn, Alina Fortes, Patricia Reilly, John Mead, Daniel Gibson, Sandra Choquette, Shayla Coleman, and Tiffany Gibau. A motion to rescind the letters of termination of those named was made by Ms. Rosado, seconded by Ms. Grace . Motion carried. (4,0)

VI. Process for approval of bills clarification - Dr. Gallo informed the Board that a person should be named to review the bills prior to presentation to the Board or these bills must continue to be sent to the Board before electronically each and every meeting. After discussion, the Board decided to appoint Hugo Figueroa and Sonia Grace as sharing the position of Treasurer for the Trustees and committing to each check once a month with the finance director reviewing the bills and understanding their impact prior to each Board meeting.

VII. Approval of bills – Grants and General Budget and Facility Improvements – A motion was made to approve the payment of bills as submitted to the Board and reviewed by them. The motion was made by Ms. Grace, seconded by Ms. Rosado. Motion carried. (4,0)

VIII. Second Reading of Fixed Asset Accounting System Board Policy – A motion to approve the Fixed Asset Policy was made by Ms. Grace and seconded by Ms. Gonzalez. Motion carried. (5,0)

IX. High School presentation of credits for graduation seeking approval from the Board. Mr Silvia, Assistant Principal at the CFHS accompanied by Kerri Valentine and John Mead, science and math teachers respectively, presented the credit reduction case to the

Board. A motion to approve the credit reduction was made by Ms. Grace, seconded by Ms. Gonzalez. A lively discussion followed. There was resistance by the Trustees. None wanted to be seen as reducing the rigor of the graduation requirements. The high school team reiterated this was about credit offerings and how the current schedule doesn't allow for as many offerings as past schedules had. It was made clear that the number of credits required would still remain more than that required by the state. After many questions and with assurances that this was fully vetted at the high school, the Trustees approved. (5,0)

X. Calcutt Middle School year end report to the Board- Dr. Alba selected a single topic to report to the Trustees: Reading lexile data. (See Attached Data slides). The Trustees questioned the data and were pleased with the progress of each and every grade level.

XI. Superintendent Comments – Dr. Gallo begged the indulgence of the Board and noted that during the approval of rescissions, she forgot to ask for the approval of appointments, resignations and retirements. The Board agreed to entertain the approvals. Dr. Gallo read the following: for appointment, Linda Dykeman as Director of Finance; for retirement, K. Lavoie, K. May, and C. Robinson; for resignation, Kathleen Klenk. A motion approve the appointment, retirements, and resignation was made by Ms. Grace, seconded by Ms. Rosado. All approved. (5,0)

Gallo spoke of the positive number of registered participants for summer school for all grade levels as reaching nearly 1000 students. Everyone was hopeful that the students will attend. Dr. Gallo outlined

the retreat plans and informed the Trustees that a wide variety of participants were invited to the retreat days including parent leaders, teachers, students, and partners. The discussion of the partners brought out an update on the Rhode Island College partnership. Dr. Gallo reviewed a number of initiatives that were now scheduled to begin in the fall including changes in the educator pipeline demonstrating that this partnership was benefitting both the college and our school system.

XII. Board Comments- none

XIII. Public Comments- none

XIV. A motion to enter into executive session pursuant to chapter 42-46-5(a)(2), that this public body convene in executive session to discuss certain matters that are the subject of collective bargaining and litigation, and to conduct work sessions pertaining to collective bargaining and litigation for updates on the certified contract was made by Ms. Gonzalez, seconded by Ms. Rosado. A roll call vote was taken. All approved.

XV. Next Scheduled Meeting: August 27, 2013 The Trustees noted that a brief July meeting to approve new appointments was very likely.

XVI. Motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Gonzalez, seconded by Mr. Tobon. Meeting adjourned at 9:25PM